

Robert J. Park

TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS/MICROSOFT "TEAMS" 2021 OCT 22 AM 10:48

CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION

WORKSHOP

TOWN CLERK
EAST HARTFORD

SEPTEMBER 28, 2021

PRESENT Deb Arrieta, Richard Bates, Don Bell, Shelby Brown, Marcia Leclerc,
in Chambers Tom Rüp (Teams), Angel Santiago, Travis Simpson and Eric Thompson

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Bell called the workshop to order at 6:02p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

September 20, 2021 Workshop

MOTION By Travis Simpson
seconded by Rich Bates
to **table** the September 20, 2021 Workshop minutes
Motion carried 9/0.

OPPORTUNITY FOR RESIDENTS TO SPEAK

None

OLD BUSINESS

A. Whether The Town Should Have A Professional Person In Charge Of Overseeing All Town Government Operations

The Chair explained that both speakers scheduled for this evening had to cancel due to unexpected professional obligations. They will be rescheduled for another workshop.

Chair Bell opened up the meeting to the Commissioners for discussion purposes.

Commissioner Brown asked to review the timeline for the following topics that are under the charge of the Commission, but have not been examined yet:

- (A) Whether the Town Charter should continue to list all town departments or provide some flexibility to consolidate or transfer functions of town departments without a

- charter revision; and
- (B) Whether the town directors should serve at the pleasure of the mayor or have some job security protections.

Commissioner Simpson suggested that the Commission focus on the more critical topic of whether the town should have a professional person in charge of overseeing all town government operations and submit the Commissions' recommendations to the Town Council per the timeline.

Commissioner Brown noted the discussion the Commission had on August 24th regarding the timeline for the research and debate of several different topics. She wanted confirmation of what the direction is now. Commissioner Arrieta agreed and suggested an outline of the Commission's schedule of topics, especially with the holiday season approaching.

Commission Thompson is concerned that the Commission may not be able to meet the January 30, 2022 deadline that was set by the Town Council. Chair Bell had asked Assistant Corporation Counsel if the Commission could have the January 30th deadline extended. It was explained to him that the Town Council would need to obtain the extension for the Commission. The Chair suggested that, at this point, the Commission continue with going toward the January deadline.

ADJOURNMENT

The Commission **adjourned** at 6:35 p.m.